GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:152
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2016
Chabahar Port
Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Afghanistan and Iran have finalized the tripartite agreement to develop Chabahar Port in Iran as an international transport corridor and if so, the details thereof and its likely benefits to India;

(b) whether the Minister of External Affairs of India is expected to travel to Iran for a meeting in this regard, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India and Iran are expected to finalise the agreement for an equity stake by India in the Farzad 'B' gas field in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 152 REGARDING "CHABAHAR PORT" FOR ANSWER ON 04.05.2016

India, Iran and Afghanistan have finalized the text of the Agreement on Establishment of International Transport and Transit Corridors among the three countries (Chabahar Agreement) in the 2nd Trilateral meeting of Experts on 11 April 2016 in New Delhi. The draft Agreement provides necessary legal framework for movement of goods and passengers across the territories of the Parties via Chabahar Port in Iran, thus affording India a reliable sea-land access route into Afghanistan and onwards to other Central Asian Countries.

External Affairs Minister travelled to Iran on 16-17 April 2016 at the invitation of her Iranian counterpart to discuss India-Iran bilateral relations, including signing of the above Trilateral Agreement.

Discussions with Iranian authorities on participation of ONGC Videsh Ltd in exploration, development and off-take from Farzad B gas field in Iran have progressed satisfactorily. This subject was also discussed in the talks between EAM and her counterpart on 17 April 2016 in Tehran, Iran where the Iranian authorities indicated that the gas field will be made available to India. The concerned companies have been directed to complete their contractual negotiations on Farzad B in a time-bound manner.